

Appl. No. : 10/790,932
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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0086] with the following replacement paragraph:

[0086] The forward driveshaft 150 is coupled with a front differential input shaft ~~[[262]]~~ (FIG. 4) of the front differential 124. The front differential housing 122 preferably encloses at least a portion of the input shaft. The front differential input shaft is coupled with a mechanism of the front differential 124, such as a pinion or differential gear. A pair of output shafts 262 extends from the mechanism of the front differential 124. Each output shaft 262 is connected to a respective one of the front wheels 56.

Please replace paragraph [0087] with the following replacement paragraph:

[0087] Preferably, the gear case 114 of the rack-and-pinion assembly 112 is positioned behind the output shafts 262. This arrangement advantageously locates the tie-rods and the knuckle arms of the steering system 104 in a space located behind linkages that connect the respective output shafts ~~[[263]]~~ 262 with the associated front wheels 56. Thus, the knuckle arms can have a sufficient length and bump steering can be reduced. Further, such a placement provides some degree of protection to these components.